Lic. # 29-01022-11
DOCKET NO. 30-6214

MLER-R1-85-13

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS COMMAND
AND FORT MONMOUTH
FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY 07703-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

AMSEL-SF-MR

21 February 1985

SUBJECT: Loss of Radioactive Test Source

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a telephone conversation between Mr. Barry J. Silber, this command, and Mr. John Kinneman, your organization, on 8 February 1985, subject as above. This conversation was immediately initiated upon receipt by this command of letter, HSHA-IPM, dated 22 January 1985, subject as above (Encl 1), in order to maintain compliance in accordance with paragraph 20.402 of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, and US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Byproduct Material License Number 29-01022-11. This license authorizes the possession and use of the MX-7338/PDR-27( ) Radioactive Test Sample by the Department of the Army.

As was indicated in referenced conversation, the following information is provided:

a. The radioactive material reported missing was one (1) each MX-7338/PDR-27( ) Radioactive Test Sample containing a maximum of five millicuries (mCi) of Krypton-85. Activity of the source at the approximate time of loss was calculated to be 1.96mCi. The MX-7338/PDR-27()is a five inch wand-shaped check source used to check the functional operation of the AN/PDR-27( ) standard Army beta-gamma radiation detection instrument (radiac set). The AN/PDR-27( ) Radiac Set includes a metal carrying case incorporating the radiation detection instrument, the MX-7338/PDR-27( ), spare Geiger-Mueller tubes and other ancillary components.

b. The MX-7338/PDR-27( ) and AN/PDR-27( ) Radiac Set were assigned to the US Army Health Services Command located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. On 7 Janaury 1985, during an inventory of MX-7338/PDR-27( ) Radioactive Test Samples, the loss of test sample Serial Number K-8179 was discovered.

c. Investigation by this command indicated that the test sample was probably lost during field training exercises. It was only when performing the 6 month inventory was it determined that the test sample was missing. Because of this fact, there is no way to ascertain specifically where or when the test sample was lost.

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FEB 27 1985

d. A complete search of the storage area, training sites and motor vehicles failed to locate the source.

e. The standard operating procedure has been revised to include explicit instructions indicating that when a radioactive source is returned for storage, the receiving individual must sign for the source, thereby indicating he/she has actually seen the source being returned for storage. This will assure serially numbered accountability of the sources when they are removed and/or returned to locked storage.

Please contact us directly if you have any questions or if we may be of further assistance in this matter. We may be reached by telephone at 201-544-4427.

Sincerely,

Bm Savaiko

BERNARD M. SAVAIKO
Chief, Safety Office

Enclosure

Copy Furnished:

Cdr, AMC, ATTN: AMCSF-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ACADEMY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, UNITED STATES ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6100

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

HSHA-IPM

22 JAN 1985

SUBJECT: Loss of Radioactive Test Source

THRU: Commander
US Army Health Services Command
ATTN: HSPA-P (LTC Gaston)
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6000

TO: Commander
US Army Communications-Electronics Command
ATTN: DRSEL-SF-MR
Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703

1. Reference: TM 3-6665-264-10, 7 Feb 75.

2. An inventory of Radioactive Test Sources, MX-7338/PDR-27, conducted on 7 January 1985, revealed the loss of test source K-8179. Current activity of the source is approximately 1.96 mCi.

3. The test sources are stored separately from the AN/PDR-27 Radiac Sets in accordance with paragraph 7.6 of the referenced Technical Manual. A thorough search of the storage area, training sites, and motor vehicles proved fruitless. As a result of the loss, procedures for securing and issuing sources have been reviewed. The local SOP is being amended to include explicit instructions for maintaining serial numbered acccountability of the sources when they are removed from locked storage.

FOR THE COMMANDANT:

Calvin E. Williams

CALVIN E. WILLIAMS
CPT, MS
Adjutant General

Encl 1